

RESEARCH NOTES

***ZELOTES SANTOS* (GNAPHOSIDAE, ARANEAE):
DESCRIPTION OF THE MALE FROM
SIERRA DE LA LAGUNA, B.C.S., MEXICO**

The species *Zelote santos* was described by Platnick and Shadab in 1983, being included in the *catholicus* subgroup, with only female specimens. In this paper I describe the male of *Z. santos* collected in the oak-pine forest at Sierra de la Laguna, B.C.S.

Zelotes santos Platnick and Shadab
Figs. 1-2

Two males were collected at an elevation of 1640 m in the oak-pine forest litter of Sierra de la Laguna B.C.S., Mexico, 5 March 1987 (F. Cota, A. Cota), 21

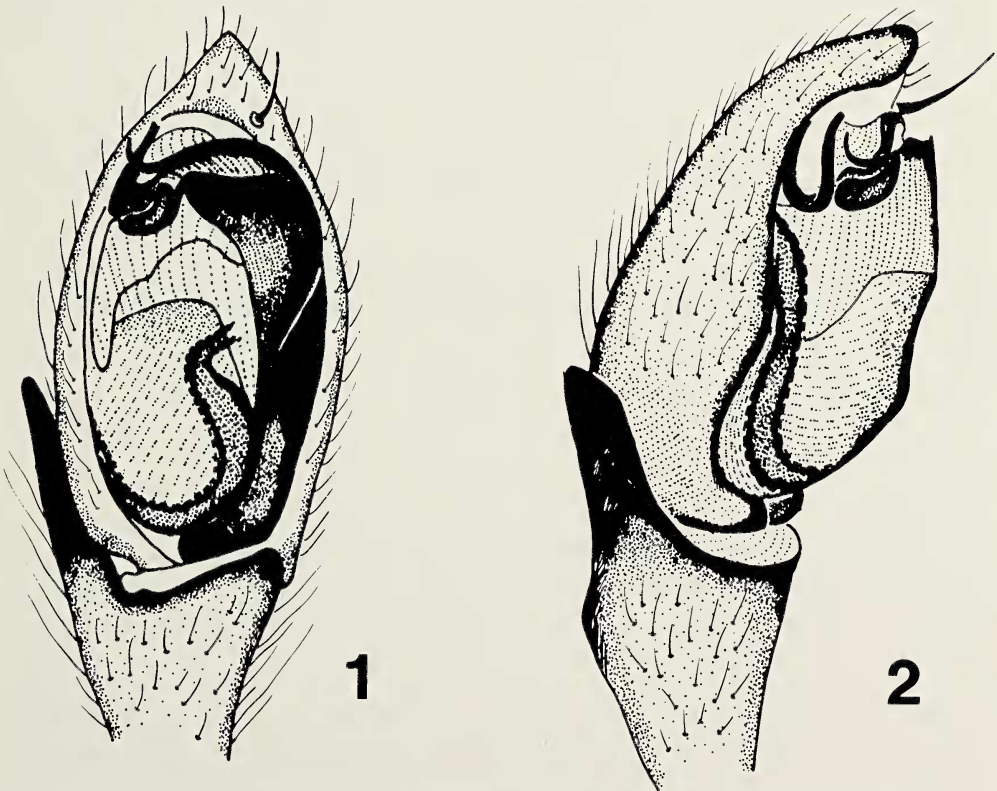


Fig. 1-2.—*Zelotes santos* Platnick and Shadab, male palp: 1, ventral view; 2, lateral view.

August 1987 (M. Vazquez). Specimens are deposited at the Arachnological Collection of the Centro de Investigaciones Biologicas de Baja California, Sur.

Description.—*Male*: Total length 6.0-6.3 mm; carapace 2.6-2.8 mm long, 2.0-2.2 mm wide (two specimens measured). Carapace dark brown with black reticulations and bright, with long black setae, thoracic groove longitudinal; anterior eye row recurved, posterior eye row straight, diameters and interdistances: AME 0.05-0.06, ALE 0.08-0.10, PME 0.06, PLE 0.08; AME-AME 0.05-0.06, AME-ALE 0.02, PME-PME 0.07, PME-PLE 0.03, ALE-PLE 0.06-0.08; MOQ length 0.20, front width 0.35, back width 0.45; chelicerae dark brown, retromargin of fang furrow with two teeth, and promargin with four; sternum with marginal brush of setae and sclerotized extensions to and between coxae. Legs dark brown with tarsi lightest, distal halves of metatarsi and tarsi scopulate; femur I 2.25 mm long with 2 dorsal macrosetae, 1 prolateral; tibia I 2.0-2.1 mm long with 0 macrosetae; basitarsus I 1.55-1.75 mm with 2 proventral macrosetae, tibia III 1.1-1.2 mm with one prodorsal macroseta; 3 internolaterals, 3 externolaterals, and three pairs of ventral macrosetae. Opisthosoma dark gray with shiny brown scutum, venter light yellow, spinnerets light. Palp with terminal apophysis narrow and long, fused dorsally to embolar base, bearing a curved projection and curved embolus without prolateral hump; intercalary sclerite apparently fused with subtegulum (Figs. 1-2).

Diagnosis.—*Male*: *Zelotes santos* seems closest to *Z. union* in having a low embolus, but can be distinguished by the much longer terminal apophysis.

Range.—Known only from the male locality.

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LITERATURE CITED

- Platnick N. I. and M. U. Shadab. 1983. A revision of the American spiders of the genus *Zelotes* (Araneae: Gnaphosidae). Bull. American Mus. Nat. Hist., 174(2):99-191.

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TRANSITION FROM PREDATORY JUVENILE MALE TO MATE-SEARCHING ADULT IN THE ORB-WEAVING SPIDER *NEPHILA CLAVIPES* (ARANEAE, ARANEIDAE)

Behavioral strategies of male orb-weaving spiders change rather dramatically as they mature to adulthood. Juvenile males are sedentary predators, capturing prey on webs of their own construction. However, upon reaching adulthood, they shift to a search strategy, approaching females who usually inhabit solitary webs